



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON;

Date : Monday 28th May 2012

Time : 16:30

Venue: Fresh Ground Cafe, Cainscross

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Ellen Wightman, (Thomas Keble)	A
Kate Jones, (Thomas Keble)	A
Kit Powell, (Bussage & Chalford)	Ap
Robin Ellis-Cockcroft**, (Stroud Town)	P
Kieran Chadwick, (Archway)	P
Luka Chadwick, (Archway)	Ap
Kathryn White, (Rednock)	P
Shannon Eden, (Katharine Lady Berkeley)	Ap
Miriam Smith, (Katharine Lady Berkeley)	A
Kirsty Driver, (Berkeley)	Ap
Roxy Mould, (Berkeley)	A
Annie Pickering, (Stonehouse)	P
Chloe Boulton, (Wotton under Edge YF)	Ap
Laura Forrester, (Wotton under Edge YF)	A
Millie Gardiner, (Maidenhill)	A
Neil Bond, (Maidenhill)	A
Max Freedman, (Marling)	A
Rob Sidwell, (Marling)	A
Laura Byng*, (Stroud High)	P
Sally Holditch, (Stroud High)	Ap
Stephanie Davies, (Stroud College)	A

DEPUTY MEMBERS

Mary Holditch, (Stroud High)	Ap
Lydia Stephens, (Maidenhill)	A
Eva Gilder-Hodgson, (Katharine Lady Berkeley)	Ap
Jessica Fisher, (Wotton under Edge YF)	Ap
Charlotte Bignall (Thomas Keble)	Ap
Holly Abbott (Stroud High School)	P

EX-OFFICIO

Lindsey Driver,	A
Emma Sankey,	Ap
Rosemary Dickinson,	A

CO-OPTIONS

Reece Campbell, Young Carers	A
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Others Present

Steve Miles, Senior 'Hear by Right' Youth Officer, Stroud District Council
 Helen Smith, Youth Support Worker, Self Employed

**** = Chair * = Vice-Chair P = present A = absent Ap = apology given**

Minutes of the meeting

Welcome and Apologies

All members were welcomed to the meeting with a special welcome given to Holly Abbott, a new member to Stroud District Youth Council representing Stroud High School. Apologies were received from Kit Powell, Luka Chadwick, Shannon Eden, Kirsty Driver, Chloe Boulton, Sally Holditch, Mary Holditch, Eva Gilder-Hodgson, Jess Fisher and Charlotte Bignall. The low attendance was noted and brief discussion was had to the reasons why – various reasons emerged. However a Quorum of members (minimum number) was present for the official meeting to continue.

Minutes of Last Meeting – 30th April 2012

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

Forest of Dean Youth Forum Event 10th May Report – Robin, Jess & Chloe

Robin explained that he, Jess and Chloe with support by Helen attended this event in which to present the model of youth participation in Stroud district to adults and young people in the Forest of Dean. This was very successful and they received positive feedback from the co-ordinator of the event afterwards. Helen added it was a worthwhile event which involved further discussion generated by the presentation.

Youth on Board Awards (YOB) - Discussion

Unfortunately the closing date to nominate someone was yesterday and therefore a discussion was not needed to take place.

Youth Panel Elections – Discussion & Dates

Unfortunately due to the low attendance the youth panel elections couldn't be discussed, although Kieran Chadwick did express that he also would like to join the panel. This will all be finalised at the next meeting.

Correspondence

Dursley & Cam Fun Days

We have received an invitation to community events in Cam and Dursley; it would be wonderful if people are available to come along to some of the event. The two community funded events for families to enjoy with a range of activities are being organized by World Jungle. Members from Rednock School were encouraged to mention this to their school council. Highfields Park fun day is Friday 20th July 2012, 14:00 – 17:00 and Kingshill Park is Friday 3rd August 2012, 14:00 – 17:00.

Local Elections

The District Council elections took place on 17th May, the highlighted results were; Cllr. Geoffrey Wheeler (Labour) was elected Leader of the Council. Cllr John Hudson (Independent) was re-elected Chair of Council and Cllr Mark Rees (Labour) was elected Vice Chair of Council. The following Thursday Cllr. Wheeler announced the intention to move away from a 'cabinet' system to a 'committee' system as soon as possible. This requires a process to be followed but, in the meantime, various changes are being made. The Cabinet is renamed Executive and each of its members is identified as an 'executive policy lead'. The Council's executive is made up of the following adult members;

Chair of Executive Policy (Leader of Council) – Cllr Geoff Wheeler (Labour)

Health and Well Being (Deputy Leader – Cllr Karon Cross (Labour)

Community Services – Cllr June Cordwell (Liberal Democrat)

Environment – Cllr Simon Pickering (Green)

Finance – Cllr Tom Williams (Labour)

Housing – Cllr Mattie Ross (Labour)

Planning – Cllr Dennis Andrewartha (Liberal Democrat)

Regeneration – Cllr Roger Sanders (Labour)

Future Now (& YES Project)

Future Now is the major local project which the Youth Exploring Sustainability Project feeds into. Future Now aims to support young people and communities to negotiate an uncertain future. It is made up of a number of local

organisations and has been awarded a development grant to by the Big Lottery to plan a £1 million project for the Communities Living Sustainably lottery strand. Of the 20 UK wide organisations chosen at this stage, Future Now, is the only one to put young people at the heart of their bid and will, over three years, support secondary schools and colleges to become hubs for sustainable communities across the Stroud District.

They hope to create a model which can be transferred anywhere where there are schools! 10 projects will be chosen by the Big Lottery for the £1 million grant. They are conducting a survey on the themes of energy, education, food, inclusion, community resilience, transport, natural environment and resources, skills and enterprise, in order to ensure the work of Future Now focuses on what communities need – most of the statements on the survey are the views of young people they interviewed aged 17 and 18. They would be grateful if people would forward on the survey link, www.surveymonkey.com/s/FutureNow, to anyone who lives in Stroud District.

Members discussed how this follows on from the camp out (which was part of the YES Project) that only Roxy attended, due to other members commitments.

Update from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forum's – reports from all

Stroud High – No report.

Archway - Year 12s and 13s have left school for study leave. Geneva trip is getting closer and some Year 12s will be attending a trip to universities to find courses to aspire to.

Marling - Year 11s, 12s and 13s have now left for study leave, however they did hold a meeting in the hall in which 5 students (one from Year 8 and four from Year 10) came along expressing interest in being nominated as SDYC reps. It had been agreed to organise an election, however Robin expressed concern that the Year 8 student would not be known to older students and believed the election process for would need to be carefully and carefully set up. Steve mentioned the potential to have a system that only allows a maximum number of students to be elected from each year group.

Rednock – Kathryn reported that they had discussed more about the YES Project, whilst finally convincing her biology teacher to let her take the lead on the project, the main aim is to increase youth participation in the project, although they haven't as of yet decided how and when. There is a rule at Rednock that doesn't allow students to use their own bags; instead they must use a drawstring bag. Kathryn has been trying to get this turned around and now they have reached an agreement with the Head Teacher that students can use any form of bag as long as it isn't a rucksack - however the community leaders went against it and changed the rule once again back to draw string bags.

Stonehouse Youth Forum – Annie reported that the youth forum were going bowling for the next meeting, and were also supporting the local recycling scheme to raise money as well as planning to recruit new members. They would also be supporting the local Spring Fare.

Youth Cabinet Report

No report required.

LSP Employment Working Group Report

Robin explained the group had held many meetings recently in which to finalise the report on their work over the last 16 weeks – it will outline 8 key goals. Robin added that he will be presenting this in a shorter view at the next LSP (Local Strategic Partnership) meeting. Robin and Kathryn will report at the next SDYC meeting about how the presentation went.

Pride In Your Neighbourhood Events – Leonard Stanley

Millie attended the PiYN event at Leonard Stanley on Monday 14th May 2012 for a short while. Unfortunately she wasn't in attendance at the meeting to report back. The group briefly explain to Holly what a PiYN event is and what it entails.

SDC Youth Strategy Development - Update

Robin explained to Holly what the youth strategy development is and how it came about – the Stroud District Council have reached a decision to give SDYC £150,000 development money over the next 3 years; Steve explained further

details about how they plan to spend the funding and how they hope it will help certain communities. Steve is preparing a report to the SDC Corporate Team about the proposed plan.

SDYC Projects Reports

Health Focus Group

The group met on the 14th May and discussed the plain packaging campaign for cigarettes – this is a project to get all smoking packaging plain instead of red, silver, gold, etc to make them seem less appealing. After a long discussion the health focus group decided that SDYC should show their support to the campaign. The group are looking into the ‘C card’ scheme (condom distribution) and discovered that not many young people actually know where to get them from or how the scheme works. There is a lot of potential to work alongside other partners south of the district to help spread the word and make it more recognisable. The group also looked at the NHS Sexual Health Strategy. It was agreed the Health Focus Group would meet every 3 to 4 weeks to keep abreast of the various aspects of work.

There was a scheduled event in the Council Chamber on 30th May however this has now be cancelled due to only 1 GP signing up – the NHS has asked the Health Focus Group to work in partnership with them and they were trying to get the health focus group to work with all the local GP’s to improve the service for younger people; one issue is that many surgeries leave the Chlamydia tests in the reception area and therefore many young people don’t feel like they can access them, as people would judge them etc.

Eat Well, Waste Less

Kieran reported that he went with Dilys Warren (SDC Health & Wellbeing Officer) and Phil Sullivan (SDC Head of Community Safety) to the official opening of Berry Blue Café in Cam which specialises in locally produced and sourced food and creating as little waste as possible – potentially fitting in well with the ‘eat well, waste less’ project. The group are hoping to join with them in some way with them as a potential sponsor for the project.

Any Other Business

September 2012 Elections

Reminder from Steve, he mentioned it previously in an informal manner, however elections for 2012 are approaching in September. The following schools and youth forums are up for election; Marling, Archway, Stroud High, Thomas Keble, Stroud Town, Wotton under Edge Youth Forum, Nailsworth and Stonehouse Youth Forum.

Date of the next meeting: Monday 18th June 2012, 4:30pm at Fresh Ground Café, Cainscross